

## Message Text

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45

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04

RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 SPC-03 PM-07 NSC-10 SS-20

SCEM-02 EB-11 SCI-06 COME-00 TRSE-00 AID-20 IGA-02

DRC-01 /134 W

----- 110676

R 281440Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2239

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE CARACAS 10996

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG VE

SUBJECT: REACTION TO WASHINGTON POST EDITORIAL ON VENEZUELA

REF: STATE 249080

1. AP STORY WHICH QUOTED FULL TEXT OF WASHINGTON POST EDITORIAL OF DECEMBER 20 ON VENEZUELA WAS PRINTED IN FULL IN SEVERAL CARACAS NEWSPAPERS UNDER HEADLINE, "NIXON NEEDS CONSTRUCTIVE APPROACH TO US-VENEZUELA RELATIONS."

2. ONLY EDITORIAL COMMENT WHICH CAME TO ATTENTION OF EMBASSY APPEARED IN EL NACIONAL OF DECEMBER 22. TEXT OF EL NACIONAL COMMENTARY WAS ALSO CARRIED BY SOME LOCAL RADIO STATIONS AND WAS PICKED UP AND REPORTED IN FULL BY FBIS.

3. EL NACIONAL COMMENTARY SAID THAT WASHINGTON POST EDITORIAL ON NEED FOR US TO REVISE ITS POLICY TOWARD VENEZUELA, BECAUSE OF IMPORTANCE OF VENEZUELAN PETROLEUM IN ENERGY CRISIS, "WAS RECEIVED WITH SPECIAL CAUTION IN OFFICIAL PETROLEUM CIRCLES AND AMONG PRIVATE OBSERVERS."

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EL NACIONAL CONTINUED, "NATIONAL FRONT FOR DEFENSE OF

VENEZUELAN PETROLEUM SAID UNOFFICIALLY THAT A POLICY FROM WASHINGTON AT THIS TIME WOULD BE CONSIDERED LATE. PRESIDENT NIXON'S ADMINISTRATION, ESPECIALLY IN HIS FIRST TERM OF OFFICE, LOST OPPORTUNITY TO FORMULATE CONTINENTAL ENERGY POLICY INCLUDING HEMISPHERIC TREATMENT FOR SECURE SUPPLIES OF OIL FROM VENEZUELA."

4. EL NACIONAL SAID THAT GENERAL REACTION AMONG OFFICIAL AND PRIVATE SOURCES CONTACTED BY ITS ECONOMIC EDITOR WAS THAT WASHINGTON POST PROPOSALS WERE WISE BUT THAT THERE ARE NOT YET POSSIBILITIES THAT NIXON ADMINISTRATION WILL UNDERTAKE SUBSTANTIAL CHANGE IN PETROLEUM RELATIONS BETWEEN US AND VENEZUELA. NEWSPAPER ADDED THAT SITUATION IS EXPECTED TO REMAIN AS IT HAS BEEN UP TO NOW AND IT IS POSSIBLE THAT VENEZUELA WILL REDUCE ITS OIL SUPPLIES IN FUTURE.  
MCCLINTOCK

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PETROLEUM, PRESS COMMENTS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, EMERGENCY PLANNING  
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**Draft Date:** 28 DEC 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** golinofr  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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**Review Authority:** golinofr  
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**Review History:** RELEASED <01-Feb-2002 by martinjw>; APPROVED <14 FEB 2002 by golinofr>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
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**TAGS:** ENRG, VE, US  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005